DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) On 2-4-1936.

(*c*) The question of constructing a bridge need be considered only when the roads on either side of the crossing are completed.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR (*Vaikom cum Kottayam*): May I know from the honourable member what stands in the way of the department for building the approach road as stated herein?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : I believe that a requisition for that approach road had not been received earlier. It has been received only recently and the matter is under enquiry.

Irrigation tanks and channels of the State.

263 ✻ **MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether Government have taken steps to improve the irrigation tanks and channels or canals of the State as an immediate factor relating to the Grow More Food Campaign, if not, why ; and

(*b*) whether Government have taken steps to improve the irrigation canals of Mavelikara and Kunnattur taluks in pursuance of the question asked in this Assembly, if not, why?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : May I know from the honourable member what steps have been taken by the Government with regard to (a) and (b)?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : I think one estimate has recently been sanctioned for about Rs. 6313 and the other estimates are under preparation.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : May I know from the honourable member whether any report has been called for from the irrigational officers with regard to those canals and dams in the Kunnathur and Mavelikara taluks?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : I mentioned about it first. One estimate has already been sanctioned and the others are under preparation.

Road from Big Bridge to Thamarakulam.

264 ✻ **MR. K. A. MAHOMED** (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the improvements to the road from Big Bridge to Thamarakulam and protecting the canal banks have been completed;

(*b*) if not completed, the reasons for the same ; and

(*c*) when it can be expected to be finished ?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : (*a*) No, only partly done.

(*b*) Due to the war situation.

(*c*) Within 2 or 3 years.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED : May I know the year in which the estimate for this work has been sanctioned?

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DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: I think the original estimate was sanctioned in 1117. It was re-sanctioned in 1119. The original estimate was for Rs. 15,000. The estimate prepared in 1120 is for Rs. 38,380.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: The answer says 'due to war situation'. Was any foreign material required for this?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: No. It is the condition of labour that has created the trouble.

PRESIDENT: For a length of 600 fret, we have to pay Rs. 38,000. That is the question.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: Is the honourable member aware that year after year, parts of this road have been washed away by rain?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: We are doing something. An estimate has been prepared. That is now being revised to see whether it could be done at a cheaper rate.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED: Is the honourable member aware that because of the washing down the cost will only increase?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: I am quite aware. But until the estimate is prepared nothing could be done.

Bridge at Chavara.

265 * **MR. K. A. MAHOMED:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any officer of the P. W. D. has inspected the platform planks of the bridge at Chavara in the Quilon-Alleppey road in recent times; and

(*b*) whether they are aware that the bridge is unsafe for pedestrian and other traffics?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

Peringara Bridge.

266 * **MR. K. A. MATHEW:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what progress they have so far made in the project of constructing the bridge at the Peringara river, Tiruvalla; and

(*b*) when the work will be started?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: (*a*) Steps have already been taken for the acquisition of lands required for the construction of the bridge and a re-cast estimate has been prepared and is under scrutiny.

(*b*) As soon as the estimate is sanctioned.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know from the Chief Engineer what the amount of the estimate is?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: The estimate is not yet ready and I cannot give you the figures.

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